

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CALGAR 00232 212324Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07 SP-02

SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /138 W

-----004557 212325Z /75

P 212245Z APR 78

FM AMCONSUL CALGARY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2388

ZEN RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 1478

UNCLAS CALGARY 0232

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG, CA

SUBJ: ALBERTA GAS EXPORTS

1. ALBERTA PREMIER LOUGHEED TOLD CANADIAN PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION (CPA) ANNUAL MEETING IN CALGARY APRIL 20 THAT, IF HOME CAN'T BE FOUND FOR ALBERTA GAS IN EASTERN CANADA, THERE SHOULD BE ADDITIONAL SHORT TERM GAS EXPORTS TO THE U.S. LOUGHEED SAID THAT QUICK SALES OF ALBERTA GAS SHOULD NOT HINGE ON SWAP ARRANGEMENTS FOR ALASKAN GAS. SWAP, LOUGHEED INDICATED, WAS UNNECESSARY COMPLICATION, AND HE SUPPORTED IDEA OF DIRECT CASH AND CARRY GAS SALE. ACCORDING TO LOUGHEED, THE NEB'S ESTIMATES OF CANADIAN DEMAND FOR NATURAL GAS WERE FAR TOO HIGH AND NEEDED QUICK REVIEW. LOUGHEED URGED PETROLEUM INDUSTRY TO MAKE THIS POINT WITH GOC. ALBERTA PREMIER CLAIMED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR AGRICULTURAL AND PETROCHEMICAL TARIFF REDUCTIONS WERE NOT HOLDING UP POSSIBLE INCREASE IN GAS EXPORTS TO U.S. ALBERTA, IN LOUGHEED'S VIEW, WAS LOOKING FOR TRADE EQUITY OR THE REMOVAL OF WHAT IT CONSIDERED TO BE INEQUITABLE TARIFFS AND NOT CONCESSIONS.

2. COMMENT: CONSENSUS OF INDUSTRY EXECUTIVES CONTACTED
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PAGE 02 CALGAR 00232 212324Z

BY CONGEN OBTAINED THE IMPRESSION THAT LOUGHEED HAD TAKEN POSITIVE STANCE ON ISSUE OF ADDITIONAL GAS EXPORTS. THERE WAS, HOWEVER, CONFUSION ABOUT WHAT ALBERTA PREMIER MEANT WHEN HE REFERRED TO "TRADE EQUITY". LOUGHEED'S SEEMINGLY MORE FORTHCOMING APPROACH ON TRADE ISSUES MAY HAVE BEEN PROMPTED BY REMARKS OF INCOMING CPA BOARD CHAIRMAN J.E. BAUGH, WHO CRITICIZED ALBERTA GOVERNMENT FOR ITS LINKAGE

OF ADDITIONAL GAS EXPORTS TO U.S. TARIFF REDUCTIONS.
COPIES OF LOUGHEED ADDRESS WILL BE AIRPOUCHED TO EUR/CAN,
EB/ORF/FSE, AND EMBASSY OTTAWA. RATTRAY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2896774
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALBERTA GAS EXPORTS
TAGS: ENRG, CA, US
To: STATE OTTAWA
Type: TE
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